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14. (Amended) The method set forth in claim 11, wherein a wall surface of a hollow space of the optical fiber is coated with a metal.

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 3, 7, 8, 11 and 14 are amended to eliminate multiple dependencies. Prompt and favorable consideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Oliff Registration No. 27,075

Thomas J. Pardini

Registration No. 30,411

JAO:TJP/zmc

Attached: APPENDIX

Date: January 10, 2002

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APPENDIX

Changes to Claims:

The following are marked-up versions of the amended claims:

- 3. (Amended) The method set forth in claim 1-or 2, wherein the cell is irradiated with the laser through reflection and condensing.
- 7. (Amended) The method set forth in claim 1 any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the laser is at least one laser selected from the group consisting of an YAG laser, an excimer laser, an Ar ion laser, a nitrogen laser and a nitrogen-exited laser.
- 8. (Amended) The method set forth in <u>claim 1 any one of claims 1 to 7</u>, which further comprises a step of introducing a foreign matter into the cell and/or the living cell through a laser-irradiated portion thereof after irradiation with the laser beam.
- 11. (Amended) The method set forth in claim 1 any one of clams 1 to 10, wherein the optical fiber is hollow.
- a wall surface of a hollow space of the optical fiber is coated with a metal.

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